Date Mailed October 19, 1999

## BEFORE THE

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Midwest Natural Gas Inc for Authority to Provide Natural Gas Public Utility Service in the Village of Cashton, Monroe County, Wisconsin

3670-CG-113

## NOTICE OF PROCEEDING AND INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS

**THIS IS A PROCEEDING TO** consider the September 10, 1999, application of Midwest Natural Gas, Inc. (MNG), as a gas public utility, for authority under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.49 and 196.50, and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133, to provide natural gas service in portions of the Village of Cashton, Monroe County, Wisconsin.

MNG is a gas public utility as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5), with its principal office in La Crosse, Wisconsin. MNG is engaged in the business of distributing and selling natural gas in portions of Buffalo, La Crosse, Monroe, Polk, St. Croix, Trempealeau and Vernon Counties, Wisconsin. MNG presently provides natural gas utility service in the immediate vicinity of the requested service area, including the Town of Portland, Monroe County.

The Commission authorized MNG in docket 3670-CG-104, dated September 9, 1988, and in docket 3670-CG-110, dated August 30, 1994, to provide natural gas service in portions of Sections 25 and 36 of the Town of Portland, Monroe County. Recently, the Village of Cashton extended its village limits via annexation into those portions of Sections 25 and 36 of the Town of Portland.

In docket CA-4450, dated February 25, 1965, the Commission granted American Gas Company of Wisconsin, Inc., a predecessor to Wisconsin Gas Company (WGC), the exclusive right to provide natural gas service within the Village of Cashton, Monroe County. In docket 6650-CG-109, dated February 14, 1989, the Commission authorized WGC to construct facilities and provide natural gas service in a portion of Section 25, Town of Portland, Monroe County.

MNG and WGC have entered into a territorial agreement establishing a service area boundary within the recently annexed portions of the Village of Cashton.

The Village of Cashton, Monroe County, adopted an ordinance on April 7, 1999, granting MNG the authority to provide natural gas service in the Village of Cashton.

The Commission intends to consider the application without a hearing unless an interested party requests a hearing within 10 working days of the date this notice is mailed.

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director, at (608) 267-0912.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Thomas A. Reisdorf at (608) 267-1475.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin,
By the Commission:
Lynda L. Dorr Secretary to the Commission

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